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COUNTRY Eastern Germany

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TOPIC Tinow Airfield

EVALUATION [REDACTED] PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED]

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DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED]

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 2 October 1952

REFERENCES

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The following aircraft and air activity were observed at Finow airfield between 14 August and 2 September 1952:

14 August. After 7 a.m., there was flying by swept-back jet fighters. Between 7 and 10 a.m., eight MiG-15 and type-29 planes individually flew over Finow. 15 August. Swept-back jet fighters made 14 individual take-offs and 4 take-offs in elements of two. Four MiG-15s in wedge formation flew over Finow. One P-25 plane was observed towing two sleeve targets. No firing practices were observed. At 6:45 p.m., five MiG-15s were towed from the take-off point. One of the planes

19 August. During the morning, there was air activity. Ten individual take-offs and three take-offs in elements of two were observed.

23 August. One biplane and 32 MiG-15 and type-29 planes, including the four alert planes, were counted at the field. An additional 15 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and numerous single-engine, low-wing monoplanes were estimated there.

of the alert flight. Air activity seemed to be less intensive between 10 and 23 August than prior to 10 August.

26 August. At 11:40 a.m., formation flying was practiced by nine MiG-15 and type-29 planes over the town at a high altitude. A wedge formation of four planes flew to the left and a wedge formation of five planes flew to the right.

27 August. In the late afternoon, 34 MiG-15 and type-29 planes were counted at the field and additional 10 planes were estimated there. About 20 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes were also stationed at the field.

2 September. The following take-offs and landings were observed between 6:30 and 11:45 a.m.:

Take-Off	Landing	Aircraft
8:30 a.m.		4 MiG-15s
8:45 "		4 MiG-15s
9:00 "		4 MiG-15s
9:40 "	9:15 to 9:30 a.m.	12 MiG-15s
9:45 "		1 single-engine, low-wing monoplane
		1 MiG-15
	10:00 a.m.	1 single-engine, low-wing monoplane
11:15 "	11:45 "	7 MiG-15s

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At 2:50 a.m., a twin-jet bomber was observed over Finow.

6 September. There was no air activity up to 1 p.m. \*

2. On 10 August, six 37-mm AA guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field. The guns were covered with tarpaulins. South of the emplacement, there were eight tents. A temporary building housing a kitchen with a brick smokestack and another tent were located on the edge of the woods on the southern border of the field. At 6 p.m., about 40 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia marched into the AA gun emplacement coming from the direction of Schwaerzesee. On 15 August, truck driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets, moved to the AA gun emplacement. In the afternoon of 23 August, no guns were observed in the AA gun emplacement, and no tents were nearby. The temporary building housing the kitchen was occupied by eight men wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The walls of earth around the gun emplacements were levelled. On 28 August, the gun emplacement was still unoccupied. Two men wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed in the temporary building housing the kitchen. Truck driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets, was observed at the entrance to the AA gun emplacement.
3. Motor vehicles observed entering and leaving the field included trucks all drivers with black-bordered blue epaulets, tank trucks, drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets and jeep.
4. On 12 September, the field was occupied by about 45 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and about 20 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes. Six 37-mm AA guns were observed in the southeastern corner of the field. \*\*
5. Between 7 and 8 p.m. on 12 August, four MiG-15s took off from the field. Another MiG-15 was towed to the take-off point by a transport plane of American origin. Four alert planes were parked at the eastern end of the runway. About 5 p.m. on 15 August, a MiG-15 was towed to the take-off point. It was raining. The were identified on three planes of the alert flight parked at the eastern end of the runway.
6. At night, a truck mounting a searchlight was parked about 120 meters south of kilometer marker 36 on the Finow-Schoepfurth road. Nearby there was a wooden shed in which Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets found shelter in bad weather. A double-wire extended underground from this shed toward the highway. Throughout the day, the truck with a mounted searchlight was parked in the farm yard 150 meters north of kilometer marker 36 on the Finow-Schoepfurth road. Every night between 12 and 19 August, the searchlight was in operation rotating at an angle of 360 degrees.
7. An AA gun emplacement with dug-in guns was observed between the southern section of the northeast-southwest runway and the observation tower. observed four guns with gun covers. Additional guns were possibly emplaced there. \*\*
8. At 5 p.m. on 12 August, a group of 2 officers and 40 MI wearing black-bordered blue epaulets and without weapons marched on the Bisental-Finow road toward Finow. On 19 August, trucks drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, entered and left the field.
9. The following observations were made at the field between 17 August and 4 September:  
17 August. There was no air activity at the field.  
18 August. Flying was practiced by MiG-15 and type-29 planes between noon and 2 p.m. and between 3:45 and 10:45 p.m. Flying still continued at 10:45 p.m. The aircraft flew individually, in elements of two and in formations of 3 to 5 planes, at irregular intervals.

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19 August. Between 8:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m., there was local flying, the individual flights lasting 3 to 15 minutes. The sky was overcast, and the visibility was limited to about 2,000 meters.

20 August. Between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m., swept-back jet fighters flew over the field, sometimes above the clouds. The sky was overcast.

21 August. There was air activity between 8:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., between 4 and 6:30 p.m., and between 8:30 and 10:30 p.m. There was an estimated visibility of 2,000 meters. The sky was overcast. At day-time, individual flights were made, mostly above the clouds.

22 August. Flying was practiced between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.; mostly individual flights were observed.

25 August. Between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., local flights were made by MiG-15 and type-29 planes which flew individually and in elements of two. Firing was also practiced at an air sleeve towed by a twin-engine, low-wing monoplane.

26 August. Local flights were made individually and in elements of two between 8 and 11:45 p.m.

28 August. There was night flying between 6:45 and 11 p.m. The planes flew individually and in elements of two.

29 August. Air activity was observed between 2 and 10:30 p.m. The aircraft flew individually, in elements of two and in formations of 3 to 5 planes. Several aircraft were aloft at the same time. Flying still continued after 11:30 p.m. Aircraft observed parked at the field included about 30 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and about 9 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes.

30 and 31 August. There was no air activity.

1 September. No air activity was observed up to 6:30 p.m. Four MiG-15s in elements of two took off between 6:30 and 7 p.m. The visibility was limited to 1.5 km, and the sky was overcast.

2 September. Between 9 and 11 a.m., MiG-15 and type-29 planes practiced flying in elements of two. Swept-back jet fighters made individual local flights between 6:30 and 7 p.m. Take-offs were made individually and in elements of two between 7:45 and 9 p.m. Up to five planes were aloft at the same time.

3 September. Individual MiG-15 and type-29 planes practiced flying. There was a visibility of about 1,000 meters. The sky was overcast. Up to 4:30 p.m., source determined that the DF station at the field was in operation during air activity.

4 September. There was air activity between 7:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. Eight individual take-offs were made by swept-back jet fighters between 6 and 6:30 p.m. Individual planes practiced flying between 7:30 and 11 p.m., the intervals between the take-offs being from 3 to 12 minutes. In the late afternoon, about 47 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and 6 single-engine, low-wing monoplanes were observed at the field.

10. [redacted] restricted area was occupied by two units of soldiers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets, who had their laundry washed in Snow and Freienwalde. [redacted] washed the laundry for 180 officers of one unit. [redacted]

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11. Motor vehicles observed at the field included trucks [redacted] drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets and truck [redacted] driven with red-bordered black epaulets, jeeps [redacted] drivers wearing black-bordered blue epaulets.

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12. On 10 September, there was individual flying by swept-back jet fighters. Throughout the day on 11 September, individual flying including dives were made. About 45 MiG-15 and type-29 planes and some trainers were observed at the field. There was day flying on 12 September. The aircraft made dives and local flights, flying individually and in elements of two. Six 37-mm AA guns

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were observed in the south-eastern corner of the field. Shelter trenches were being dug on the southern edge of the field. \*\* Motor vehicles with [redacted] observed entering and leaving the field.

[redacted] Comments.

\* [redacted] Finow airfield is occupied by about 50 MiG-15s. According to available information, the aircraft belong to two fighter regiments stationed at the field. The division headquarters is also located in Finow. The large number of single-engine planes cannot be explained. It is believed that the aircraft are either Yak-11 trainers or that they belong to a ground attack unit which is temporarily stationed in Finow. The presence of the planes is probably connected with maneuvers which are expected to start soon. The aircraft [redacted]

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\*\* [redacted] Comment. The AA gun emplacement in the southeastern corner of the field is occupied by a battery of six 37-mm AA guns. The emplacement was vacant between 23 August and 2 September 1952. During that period, the battery was transferred to the Justerbog artillery range for firing practices with live ammunition. The battery returned to Finow on 5 September. During this movement, the following [redacted]

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[redacted] Another AA gun emplacement is located in the northwestern corner of the field.

\*\*\* [redacted] Comment. The airfield is occupied by two fighter regiments and the supporting ground units as well as the fighter division headquarters. The information that the six women washed the laundry for 180 officers of one unit is believed to be improbable. The 180 officers are probably assigned to several units e.g. one fighter regiment and the supporting OATBs.

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